

JULY 5, 2020



Kitchissippi

UNITED CHURCH

Sunday, July 7, 2020
Season of Pentecost

KUC WEBSITE: www.kitchissippiuc.com

Good Friday to you!

A minister friend recently told me that she had bought a book on anti-racism and was going to read it over the summer. I thought, "awesome" and looked at the books beside me on my desk. Yes, books, plural. Here is an article about why it is good to read about antiracism and why it must not be the only thing any of us do: https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/white-antiracist-allyship-book-clubs/2020/06/11/9edcc766-abf5-11ea-94d2-d7bc43b26bf9_story.html?fbclid=IwAR2jreKEQoFsR_MWyiMhcEBzzzvSbUTN6ZIJSThZTUBhOOXcxgQhltk7RuQ

Another minister friend confessed that while his birthday was on June 19th, he had *never known* until this year that the day was called "Juneteenth" in the United States to mark the end of slavery 155 years ago. Another minister friend posted this article to help educate us about this day and about the theology of the black church, born out of slavery, written by black ministers in the US: https://www.colorlines.com/articles/theological-statement-black-church-juneteenth?fbclid=IwAR13UVTnEKoVwgUB9WufLTbA_XBqdj2lQKuUfSEYDY_9MV6FtW16aXSvklw

There is a bit of a 'discussion' happening around to wear or not to wear a mask right now. I'm not sure where you fall on this one, but I confess I am firmly pro mask, following the advice of health professionals. I realized recently that my pro mask status might also come from my theology as well.

Have you heard of 'prehesion'? How about 'relational theology'?

While I confess I do not fully understand the former (yet), the latter is something I've been thinking about for awhile. We are all connected, is the gist of the latter. We are all connected in God. We are so connected, that what one does affects all others. We can see this in creation: humans have been treating creation with disrespect and the earth is suffering. We can see this in a positive way as well: there has been an outpouring of respect, love and support for black people, for Indigenous people and people of colour. We are all connected, full stop. What we do and how we treat people matters. All people. All of creation. Here is an article and a video that is helping me deepen my understanding of prehesion. <https://www.openhorizons.org/prehensions.html>

JULY 5, 2020

I will be on holidays for the next two weeks and some folks have stepped up to send emails, for which I am grateful.

Broadview Reading Club will meet twice through the summer: July 21st and August 11th from 1-3. Coffee Time is on hiatus for the summer and will resume in September.

Attached to this Friday file, you will find documents about the summer worship service planned for Janis Anderson's garden. Denise and Janis have led this before while I've been on holidays, and this year, have put in considerable thinking to make it a safe experience for everyone, including offering 2 times so that it isn't crowded. Please know though, that your comfort level and risk tolerance is to be listened to and respected: no one will judge you either way. We all must respect our own levels to feel safe and secure during this Covid time.

I nearly hit send without sharing this hymn, this recording of it I just heard this week - one of my favourites from Voices United: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xY_wbfBbjRY. For me, this hymn speaks to our interconnectedness with God and with one another: all love flows in this ancient way.

Peace, love, blessings, prayers and respect for all of you and your ministry,
Jenni

We are here for you! Please reach out!

Kitchissippi United Church

630 Island Park Drive
Ottawa, ON K1Y 0B7

**CHURCH OFFICE
CLOSED UNTIL
FURTHER NOTICE DUE
TO THE COVID-19
PANDEMIC**

www.kitchissippiuc.com

facebook

Find us on Facebook:

KitchissippiUC

STAFF

Rev. Jenni Leslie

Minister

jleslie@kitchissippiuc.com

Kirsten Gracequist

Office Administrator

kgracequist@kitchissippiuc.com

Gavan Quinn

Music Director

gavanquinn@gmail.com

Diana Brushey

Faith Formation Leader

diana.brushey@kitchissippiuc.com

Jerzy Spychalski (Monday, Wed Friday mornings)

Custodian